

Clinton Currents *A to Z*

Volume 7, Issue 1 • Spring/Summer 2007

Inside this issue...

Township Board	2
Supervisor's Message	3
41-B Court	4
Gratiot Cruise	5
Mall Development	6

RESIDENTIAL
POSTAL CUSTOMER

Clinton Township Civic Center
40700 Romeo Plank Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038

PRESORTED
STANDARD
US POSTAGE PAID
MT CLEMENS MI
PERMIT NO. 319

Art Celebration Clinton Township plans an art festival in September. The first Clinton Township Festival of the Senses—A Celebration of the Arts will be held on the grounds of the Civic Center at 40700 Romeo Plank Road on Saturday and Sunday, September 22-23, 2007. Organizers anticipate more than 200 multi-media artists and craftspeople displaying and selling their original works of art. In addition, to make the family event a true feast for all of the senses, musicians, thespians and culinary artists will also be participating.

There will be an application process for persons who wish to showcase their wares. The application is available for download on the Festival of the Senses web site at the following address, which is also linked at the Clinton Township website: www.ctfestivalofthesenses.com. The selection of artists will be based on the criteria that their work would be original. Artist demonstrations will take place throughout the two-day event.

Clinton Township's departments of Public Works, Parks and Recreation, Cable TV and Communications and the Trustees' and Supervisor's offices are also involved in making certain that the festival will be a success for the township. The Clinton Township Board gave its approval to the concept of a community art festival earlier this year.

Organizers plan to make the Clinton Township Festival of the Senses an annual event that will be a destination for township residents and out-of-town-ers alike.

Assessing Department annually places valuation on the 36,000 parcels within Clinton Township. Property Tax Data is available on the Assessing

Department's page at www.clintontownship-mi.gov. Contact (586) 286-9468.

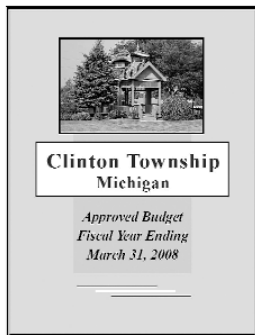
Bike Path The mostly grant-funded Bike/Hike Path that will connect Canal Park, the Clinton-Macomb Public Library and Civic Center area with the Metropolitan Parkway Bike/Hike Path is set for construction beginning this summer.

Blood Drive The 8th annual community-wide Clinton Township Blood Drive, held in March, yielded a grand total of 394 pints of blood collected by the American Red Cross from generous community-minded donors like you. Thank you for helping to make the blood drive an annual success.



The logo design for the first Clinton Township Festival of the Senses—A Celebration of the Arts was designed by area artist Maxwell Heiderer. Participating artists can be viewed at www.ctfestivalofthesenses.com.

Budget and Finance Department Preparing the annual township budget is one of the main functions of the Budget and Finance Department.



The 2007—08 budget is available at www.clintontownship-mi.gov for viewing by the public. Contact (586) 286-9353.

Building and Ordinance Enforcement Department has available at its counter at the Civic Center, as well as online, a brochure outlining a number of issues regarding ordinance enforcement and building issues, restrictions and precautions. Contact (586) 286-9323.

Cable TV and Communications Department Clinton Township Television (CTTV) televises a variety of new weekly programming starting every Friday. Check out the on-air program guide, which is also available for pick-up at the civic center lobby.

CTTV provides gavel-to-gavel coverage of board meetings every other Monday live at 6:30 p.m. and re-telecasts the Saturday following the meeting at 2 p.m. and Tuesday of the following week at 8 p.m. For Comcast Cable subscribers, CTTV is seen on channel 5; for WideOpenWest subscribers, CTTV is seen on channel 10. Board meetings are closed captioned for the hearing impaired.

Clinton Currents

Volume 7, Issue, Spring/Summer 2007

Published by:

Charter Township of Clinton
40700 Romeo Plank Road
Clinton Township, MI 48038

Cable TV and Communications Department
Linda A. Badamo, Director
Clinton Currents Editor © 2007

Clerk's Office The Clerk's Office is available at (586) 286-9422. Contact the Clerk's Office 10 days prior to any township Board meeting to have an item placed on the agenda. The 2007 Board meeting schedule through spring, summer and early fall is listed here:

May 14, 29 (28th Memorial Day)
June 11, 25
July 9, 23
August 6, 20
September 4, 17 (3rd Labor Day)
October 1, 15, 29

The Clerk's Elections Division prepares for upcoming elections, conducts and coordinates the work of pollworkers at precinct locations throughout the township and maintains township voter records. Contact the Elections Division to obtain absentee voter ballots. Phone (586) 286-9420.

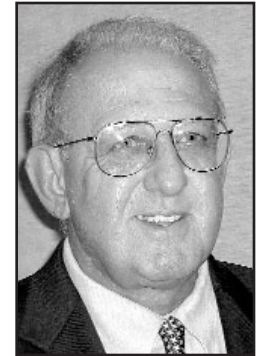
Passports are available at the Clerk's Office. Applications are processed for the U.S. Department of State. United States citizens planning international travel may apply for their passports at the Clinton Township Clerk's Office Monday through Friday 9 a.m.—4 p.m.

"My office is another convenient location for persons to apply for passports, which are becoming increasingly necessary for border crossings whether by air or vehicle travel," says Dennis Tomlinson, township clerk.

The fees that are charged are set by the federal government and are the same everywhere: \$30 for processing the application and \$67 for the adult passport. Applicants are required to bring two passport photos (obtainable at Kinko's, local drugstores and AAA, among other locations), a sealed birth certificate (from the clerk's office of the county of their birth), a driver's license, and two checks. Please write one check payable to the U.S. Department of State for \$67.00 and the other check payable to the Charter Township of Clinton for \$30.00. Applications are available at the Clinton Township Clerk's Office.

As a certified application acceptance agency, the Clerk's Office forwards all materials to the Chicago U.S. Department of State office, from where the passport is issued to the applicant, a process that takes about six weeks.

Clinton Township Board Trustees are available by contacting the Administrative Aide at (586) 286-9366. The Supervisor is available at (586) 286-8000, Ext. 8093; the Clerk's phone number is (586) 286-9422; the Treasurer's phone number is (586) 286-9313. The seven-member board is elected every four years, in even-number years. The next election is in 2008.



Dennis C. Tomlinson
Clerk



William J. Sowerby
Treasurer



Dean Reynolds
Trustee

Supervisor's Message



Robert Cannon
Supervisor



Ernest O. Hornung
Trustee



George Fitzgerald
Trustee



Jenifer "Joie" West
Trustee

I hope this spring edition of the township newsletter finds each of you ready to enjoy the rebirth that is so wonderful here in Michigan. I am pleased to report to you that with the passage of the police millage of 1.5 mills, the Police Department is beginning to rebuild to the level they were at when reductions began several years ago. I and the entire township Board thank you for the positive outcome of last year's police millage election.

You may remember that state revenue sharing has been reduced for the past six years, and most of this money was allocated to police protection. We had to reduce staff through attrition, and reduce services as well. We learned how to operate even more efficiently with less, while still servicing the ever-growing needs of many.

We will be increasing our sworn officer staff, as well as bringing back the canine unit. We now have a bloodhound who is being trained, and I am pleased to let you know that we received this dog from a foundation at no cost to the township. Many people, including police officer Kevin Frabotta, are investing a lot of time, and their own money, into preparing this dog to help protect our community.

Our Governor has announced that revenue sharing to local communities will be tied to how well each community is coordinating services with neighboring units of government. Space does not permit me to go into all that we do in this area, but I can assure you that the township has been doing this for years. Each and every department does this as a matter of fact, not exception. At the State of the Township address, I pointed to several areas where this is done on a daily basis. Two very visible examples are the Clinton-Macomb Public Library, and our agreement with Clintondale schools, to utilize their pool for our Parks and Recreation program when the school is not using it. It not only makes economic sense to do these things, but also, it makes for good neighbors.

We are all eagerly awaiting October 18.

That is the date of the grand opening of the Partridge Creek Mall on Hall Road. This is the first new mall to open in Macomb County in the past 30 years. I am certain that you will all enjoy this state-of-the-art facility. It will bring over 2,000 full-time jobs, and countless part-time jobs to the community. Additionally, it will employ several thousand people during the construction period.

Speaking of construction, the widening of Cass Avenue is scheduled to begin this summer. It will make driving more difficult in the construction area, but I am sure you will agree that it is a much needed project for all of Macomb County. You will also see the completion of the renovation of our two older firehalls—Station #2 on 15 Mile, and Station #3 on Garfield. The funds for these projects became available due to the construction costs for the two new firehalls—Station #1 on Gratiot, and Station #5 on Elizabeth, both coming in under budget. How often do you see that occur in projects of that magnitude?

The DDA on South Gratiot is progressing. It is proposed that there will be street lighting on Gratiot before the next snow falls. Remember that we are a township, and funds for lighting are in the hands of the Road Commission, as opposed to cities, which receive their gas tax monies directly, and are able to utilize them as they see fit—often for street lighting. You will see other positive projects also on Gratiot Avenue this summer. Due to the positive developments on Gratiot, I am calling for the creating of a Groesbeck Business Owners Association. Remember, this is how the Gratiot project started just several years ago. I am hopeful that some positive seeds will be planted for this section of our community.

We need your continued support, and we need the support of Lansing, as we move our community forward. I look forward to working with all of you to achieve our goals.

Sincerely,


Robert J. Cannon
Clinton Township Supervisor

District Court 41-B District Court is in the process of constructing a new court building in Clinton Township, on Starks Drive, which is west of Groesbeck, north of Elizabeth Road. The building is expected to be completed towards the end of the year.



Officials from the city of Mount Clemens and Clinton and Harrison townships gathered for a groundbreaking for the new court building, which will serve all three communities.



(l-r) New 41-B District Court Judge Sheila Miller, Judge Sebastian Lucido and Chief Judge Linda Davis, along with Macomb County Circuit Court Judge John Foster (formerly of 41-B District Court) seen at the groundbreaking ceremony for the new court building held last August.

Dog Park The dog park is located behind the Senior Center in the Civic Center park. Open dawn till dusk 365 days a year to dog park pass holders, dogs of all sizes can come and enjoy this 1.5 acre fenced in doggie play area. Featured amenities include benches, complimentary pet waste bags, an area



for small dogs and a drinking fountain for humans and their four legged friends. To obtain a pass, owners must come to the Parks and Recreation Department and provide dog license paperwork and proof of current immunizations. The immunizations needed are rabies, DHPP, and Bordetella. Cost for one year (January 1 - December 31) is \$11 for residents, \$22 for non-residents, \$9 for resident seniors and \$18 for non-resident seniors.

DWSD Sewer Repairs Major roadway construction projects recently completed and newly underway in the township serve to improve the infrastructure of our community in order to deliver essential services. The Detroit Water and Sewer Department's (DWSD) repairs on the sanitary interceptor sewer located



under Garfield and 15 Mile roads will continue to create necessary intermittent road closures and other potential disruptions. The DWSD offers project details and updates on its website www.DWSD.org or you may call the Project Information Line at (877) 329-5858.

Emergency Management The township's Office of Emergency Management offers a brochure at the Clinton Township Civic Center to aid in individual emergency planning for families in the township. Contact Paul Brouwer at (586) 723-8069.

Engineering Department educates on the impact of storm water runoff on our lakes and streams Storm water runoff is one of the most significant sources of pollution to our rivers and lakes. Storm water runoff occurs when rainfall and snowmelt runs over land picking up pollutants and depositing them into our river and lakes. This is largely due to the growing number of impervious surfaces, for example, roads, parking lots, rooftops and buildings. These impervious surfaces add to the amount and the rate of pollutants that enter the storm water system and ultimately the river and lakes. This is a large concern in southeast Michigan and other areas of the country. Developing communities and older communities alike are challenged with reducing these storm water impacts to protect our valuable water resources.

The first thing we can do is recognize that we all have water front property. It's true, if you have a catch basin in your backyard or in the road, a small stream or a ditch, the water that enters these systems goes directly to the Clinton River without being treated. With this being said, there are several things you can do to help protect the Clinton River and Lake St. Clair. Clinton Township is working with several other communities and SEMCOG to get these messages out to all residents in southeast Michigan. These small actions and changes in habits will add up and improve the water quality in this area:

- Practice good car care
- Clean up after your pet
- Carefully store and dispose of household cleaners, chemicals and oil
- Keep pollution out of the storm drains
- Fertilize sparingly and carefully
- Save water
- Choose earth-friendly landscaping

Employees Civil Service Inquiries on available jobs with the township may be made by calling (586) 286-9342. The township has a new Human Resources Director, Bill Smith, who previously worked for Waterford Township.

Employees Wear Casual In 2006, employees at the Clinton Township offices raised \$13,864 for area charities by participating in the Employees Wear Casual days organized by the Trustees Office. "On the designated day, signs are displayed at each department's counter noting the charity we are supporting that day," explains Debbie Staller of the Trustees Office. "We are continually seeking suggestions for charitable causes to possibly support." Contact the Trustees Office at (586) 286-9366 for details.

Fire-Rescue-EMS Department reminds residents and businesses of the importance of respecting the "No Parking Fire Lane" signs throughout the township. Firefighters are often hampered when they arrive at the scene of a fire to find a car parked next to a fire hydrant, making it difficult and sometimes impossible to hook their hoses to the hydrant. Can this situation happen in Clinton Township? "Definitely," says Fire Marshall Bob Smith. "We see illegally parked vehicles on a daily basis." It may seem inconvenient to park further away when you are just going inside for a "minute", but emergency response vehicles arrive and become operational very quickly. "People who park in fire lanes would probably have a different perspective if they ever had to move 150 feet of fire hose around someone's car or delivery truck to put out a fire," says Smith. In addition, firefighters need clearance to carry ill and injured persons to ambulances. Any vehicle parked incorrectly can get in the way. Disobeying roadside signs that say "No Parking" or "No Standing" may result in towing and/or a ticket from the Clinton Township police, resulting in towing charges and fines. The Clinton Township Fire Department wants you to realize that parking in a no parking zone is illegal and, more importantly, may result in property damage or loss of life. Contact the Fire Department at (586) 263-8437 for further details.

Gratiot Cruise The 5th Annual Clinton Township Gratiot Cruise is set to take place the first Sunday in August, that is August 5, 2007. Check out programming on Clinton Township Cable Television (CTTV) for further details. The cruise spans Gratiot Avenue from 14 Mile north to Wellington Crescent.



Photo by Jim Kowalski

Gratiot Street Lighting Good news for motorists traveling Gratiot Avenue through Clinton Township at night: the Downtown Development District (DDA) is making plans to install street lighting. Of all recommendations made during a recent survey conducted by the DDA, participants listed lighting Gratiot Avenue north of the city of Roseville, as the top improvement for the area. Street lighting is planned along the median spanning Gratiot Avenue from 14 Mile to Wellington Crescent. Funding would come from a variety of sources, including the businesses along that stretch of road in the form of a special assessment. The target date for completion is in time for fall 2007.

Heritage Estates The phone number for the senior citizen apartments at 18 Mile and Hayes roads is (586) 263-5919.

Housing Commission The phone number for low income housing opportunities located at 15 Mile and Gratiot Avenue is (586) 791-7000.

Information Technology The township's I.T. Department is working with the Cable TV and Communications Department to stream CTTV programming on the web, including live and replayed township Board meetings. Visit the township web site at www.clintontownship-mi.gov.

Japanese Sister City Trip to Yasu For more than a decade, the township's sister city relationship with Yasu in Japan has involved hundreds of Clinton Township residents traveling to Japan and hundreds of persons from Yasu traveling to Clinton Township. This year, a group from Clinton Township and surrounding communities will visit Yasu City and be welcomed to stay in the homes of host families from July 6-17. The cost is approximately \$1800 per person, which includes airfare. The experience includes learning about every day Japanese life and enjoying a variety of activities, including a trip by bullet train to Himeji Castle. For information on traveling to Japan with the Clinton Township contingent, contact Cindy Leckvarcik at (586) 286-9161 or email leckvarcic@wowway.com.

Kiwanis Fun Run at the township Civic Center is scheduled for Saturday, May 5. This is a community-focused fundraiser to promote unity, camaraderie and healthy initiatives within the township and its local high schools. The Kiwanis Fun Run starts at 8:30 a.m. For information on how to contact the Kiwanis Club and more non-profit organizations, call the Supervisor's Office at (586) 286-8000, Ext. 8093.

Library The Clinton-Macomb Public Library Main Branch on Romeo Plank summer hours are Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday and Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. The library does not have Sunday hours during June, July and August. The hours of the South Branch on Gratiot are Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-9 p.m. and Friday and Saturday 9 a.m.-6 p.m. Phone (586) 226-5000.

MSU Extension Service on Dunham Road offers home repair classes three times a year and a Master Gardener Class twice a year. People can call with housing and gardening questions. MSUE has a great deal of practical information about fertilizers, pesticides and non-toxic ways to handle household pests, such as rodents, rabbits and ants. For housing questions, call (586) 469-6430 and for gardening questions, call (586) 469-6440.



New Development The Mall at Partridge Creek, spanning 640,000 square feet, situated on a 55-acre site along the south side of M-59 between Garfield and Romeo Plank, will feature two anchor department stores, a 14-screen multiplex cinema,

several sit-down restaurants and up to 90 specialty retailers. The two anchor stores, Nordstrom and Parisian, are Macomb County firsts. The Mall at Partridge Creek will be the first regional shopping center built in Macomb County in more than 30 years. Big name restaurants include Max & Erma's, P.F. Chang's and Bravo. The open-air shopping center is scheduled to debut in October 2007.

Offices Open; Offices Closed The Clinton Township Government Offices are open Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The offices are closed for the following holidays during spring and summer: Memorial Day, 4th of July, and Labor Day.

Parks and Recreation Clinton Township Parks and Recreation is seeking input from all township residents regarding the future of Parks and Recreation facilities and services. An Open House was held so that citizens could drop in and advise the Parks and Recreation Department on priorities over the next five years. Information gathered at this event is being reviewed and used in the update of the Recreation Master Plan. The Recreation Master Plan is a very important document, filed every five years with the Department of Natural Resources. It is the basis for all grant applications and can be used to bring in state and federal monies to the Clinton Township community for recreation projects. In addition to the open house, the department mailed 2200 surveys to random households in the township. It gained the input of fourth graders from Erie Elementary and continues to invite and welcome input from all residents. For more information call (586) 286-9336.

Police Department The staff of the Clinton Township Police Department join township officials in thanking the community for the approval of the millage increase, which is allowing for the reinstatement of programs and officer positions that were previously cut. Pictured above is police captain Fred Posavetz, who has been named chief of police for Clinton Township. The police station phone number is (586) 493-7800. In an emergency, always dial 911.



Quality of Water in Clinton Township Look for the annual Water Quality Report. It is a State requirement that this publication be printed every year. If you need a copy, stop by the Water Department in the township Civic Center. You can rest assured that the quality of Clinton Township's water remains excellent.

Radio station 1610AM is the township's low power AM radio station. The township transmits weather information, news and emergency notices on this radio frequency.

Rubbish Guidelines from Public Works

- Cardboard may not be put in recycling containers. Cardboard boxes should be bundled and put out for regular trash removal.

- Trash should never be put in cardboard boxes. Trash cans larger than 32 gallon size are not acceptable.

- All trash, except yard waste, must be in plastic bags, not loosely placed in trash cans.

- Call DPW to schedule a chipper truck for branches that are too large or heavy to bundle. Branches less than four feet in length, which are bundled and less than 50 lbs. per bundle, may be placed at the curb with yard waste (see Yard Waste).

- On Memorial Day, the 4th of July, and Labor Day, there will be no trash pick-up. Collection will be made the following day with Friday's pickup on Saturday.

Senior Center The first phase of expansion of the Fitness Room at the Senior Center is underway. "The Bill and Toni Lee Wellness Center will serve the needs of our community's senior citizens for many years to come thanks to generous donors through the S.P.A.C.E. program," says Senior Center Director Matthew Makowski.



Treasurer's Office
Treasurer William Sowerby explains in detail the process of tax collection for summer and winter taxes, including due dates and tax rates on the Township Treasurer's page of the

web site. Go to www.clintontownship-mi.gov, click on Township Departments and Township Treasurer. Summer tax bills are mailed the first week in July and are payable without interest through September 14. Call the Treasurer's Office at (586) 286-9313.

Use of the township SMART Bus The Senior Center assists residents who need transportation with the township's SMART bus. The number to call is (586) 286-9476.

Video Services Phone companies are positioning themselves to begin offering television channels to subscribers. Clinton Township Television will keep you posted as CTTV is set to be in their channel line-ups.

Web Site Visit township departments at www.clintontownship-mi.gov.

External Heart Defibrillators are located throughout the Civic Center should they be needed for first aid.

Yard Waste (compost) removal season is from mid-April to the end of November each year. Leaves, grass or other yard waste must be in either Kraft treated paper compost bags, or 32-gallon trash cans with no bags, clearly marked COMPOST or YARD WASTE. A sticker is available at the Public Works Department.

Gazebo The township Gazebo, located on the grounds of the Civic Center, in the Historical Village is available for weddings. Contact Parks and Recreation for rates and reservations: (586) 286-9336.